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PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

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FACTS AND FIGURES ON DEVELOPMENT IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

Published under direction of
HON. GEORGE HOADLEY, Minister of Agriculture
Edmonton, Alberta

Issued from the office of the Publicity Commissioner, Govt. Building, Edmonton

Facts on the Progress of Alberta

The figures and charts published herein showing the progress and resources of the Province of Alberta are based on official records of both the provincial and federal governments.

Population

In 1901 the population was 73,021, in 1911, 374,295, in 1921, 588,454, and in 1924 it was estimated to be 640,000, with 60 per cent of British origin. Rural population in 1921 was 365,550, and urban 222,904.

Growth of Cities

Edmonton:

1901— 4,176
1911—31,064
1921—58,821

Calgary:

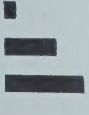
1901— 4,392
1911—43,704
1921—63,305

Lethbridge:

1901— 2,072
1911— 9,035
1921—11,097

Medicine Hat:

1901— 1,570
1911— 5,608
1921— 9,634



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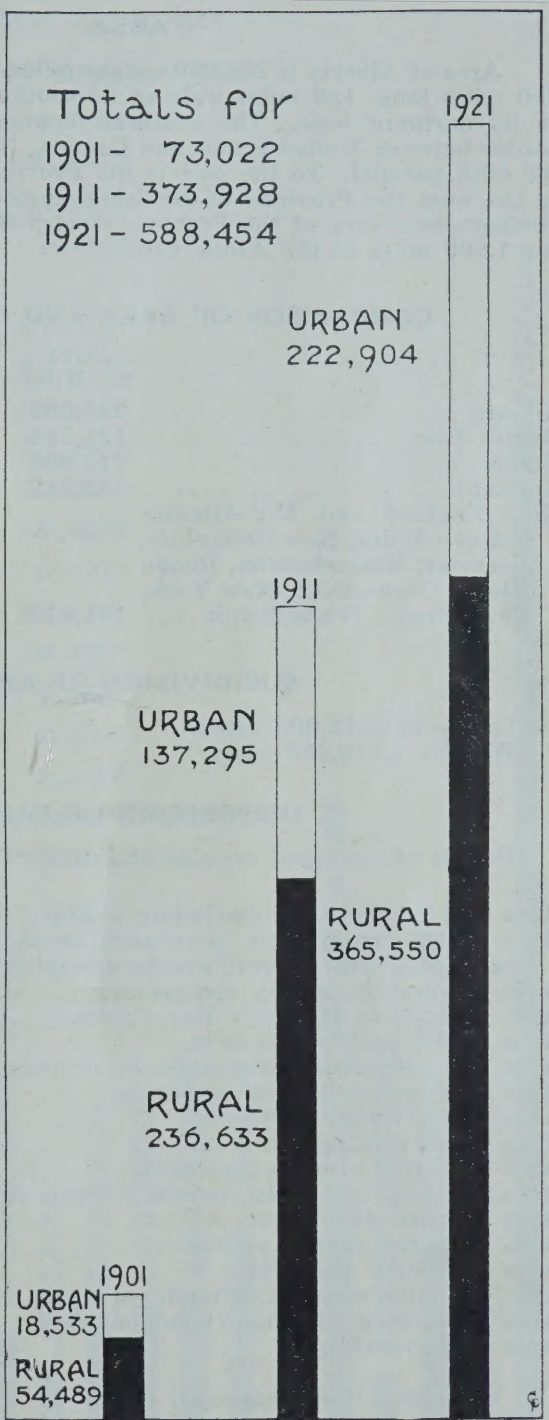
Population of Alb

When the Province of Alberta was formed in the year 1905 the population was less than 200,000. When the census was taken in 1911 it had reached 374,000. In 1921 the census made it 588,000. The estimate made by the federal government of the population of the Province in 1924 was 640,000, pending the new census which will not be taken until 1926. At present 60 per cent of the population is of British origin, the census classifying them only into English, Scotch, Irish, Welsh, including all Americans and Canadians of British origin.



MUNICIPALITIES

Six cities, 54 towns, 119 villages, 167 municipal districts, 251 local improvement districts.

AREA

Area of Alberta is 254,000 square miles. The Province is roughly 750 miles long, 180 miles wide at its southern base, 400 miles wide at its northern base. The southern boundary is the international border between United States and Canada. The northern boundary is the 60th parallel. To the east is the Province of Saskatchewan and to the west the Province of British Columbia. To the north of the northern boundary of the Province stretch the north-west territories, for 1,500 miles to the Arctic Circle.

COMPARISON OF AREA AND POPULATION

	Area Sq. Miles	Population	Population Sq. Mile
Alberta	255,000	588,454	2.3
British Isles	121,558	47,307,601	389.
France	213,000	39,209,518	184.
Germany	182,213	59,852,682	328.
New England and Mid-Atlantic States—Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania	161,976	29,662,053	183.

SUB-DIVISION OF AREA

Land—161,872,000 acres.
Water—1,510,400 acres.

DISPOSITION OF LANDS

Details of surveyed area as at January 1, 1924:

	Acres
Area under homestead (including military homesteads)	18,217,200
Area under pre-emption, purchased homesteads, sales, half-breed scrip, bounty grants, special grants, etc.	3,821,300
Area granted to railway companies	13,120,041
Area granted to Hudson's Bay Company	2,177,800
Area school lands endowment	3,756,000
Area sold subject to reclamation by drainage	34,837
Area sold under irrigation system	981,877
Area under timber berths	1,347,200
Area under grazing leases	2,870,957
Area of forest reserves and parks	16,807,347
Area reserved for forestry purposes, inside surveyed area	1,677,500
Area of road allowances	1,287,406
Area of parish and river lots	118,565
Area of Indian Reserves	1,368,337
Area of Indian reserves surrendered	302,675
Area water-covered lands (inside surveys)	2,297,160
Area undisposed of	15,586,000
Total area inside surveyed tract	85,772,175

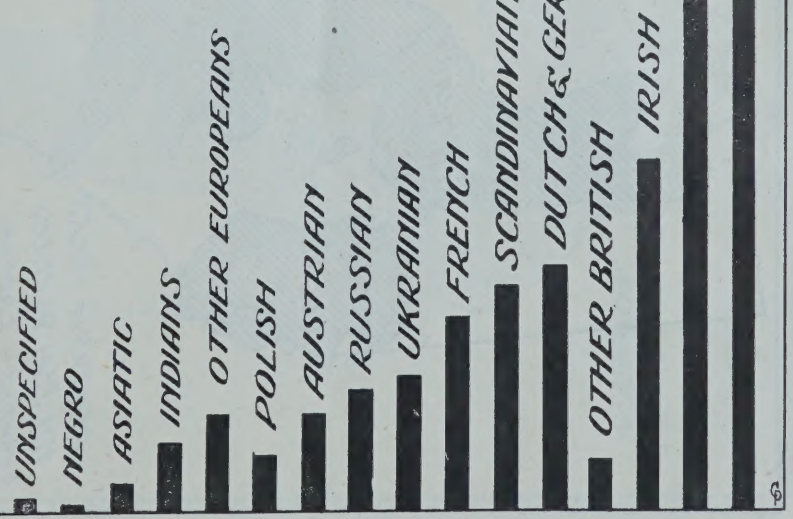
POPULATION of ALBERTA

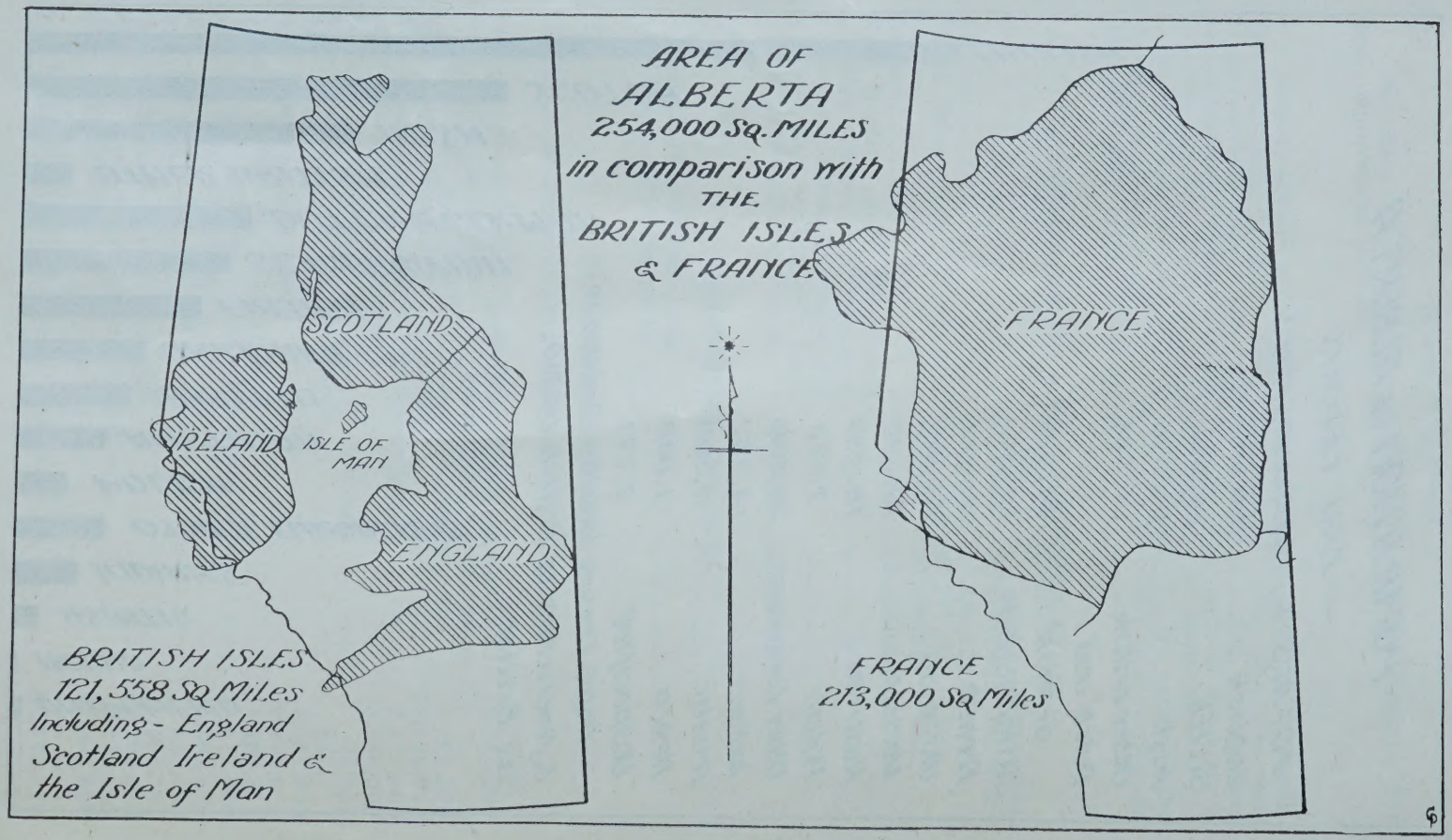
—1921 CENSUS—

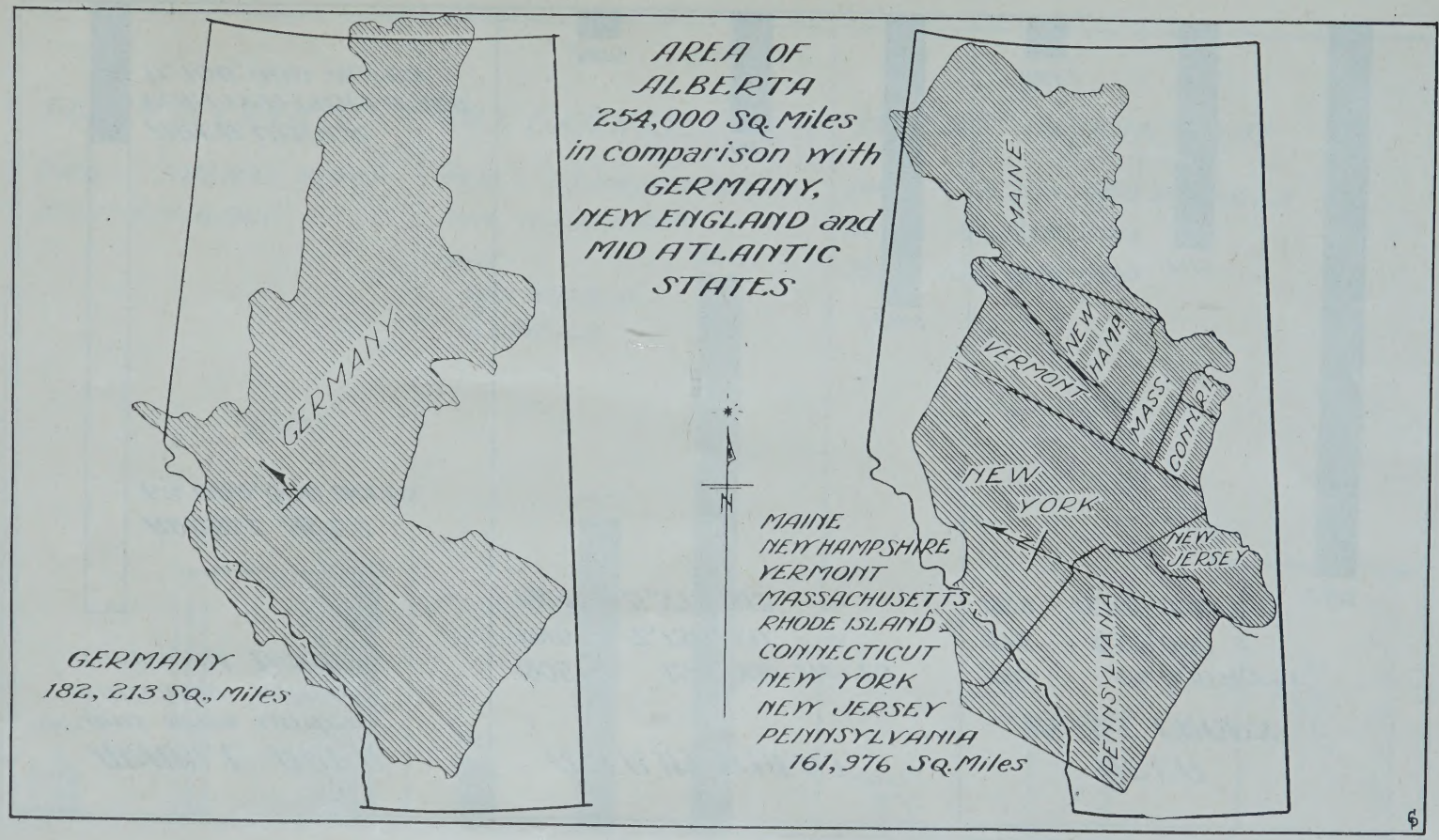
TOTALS by NATIONALITIES

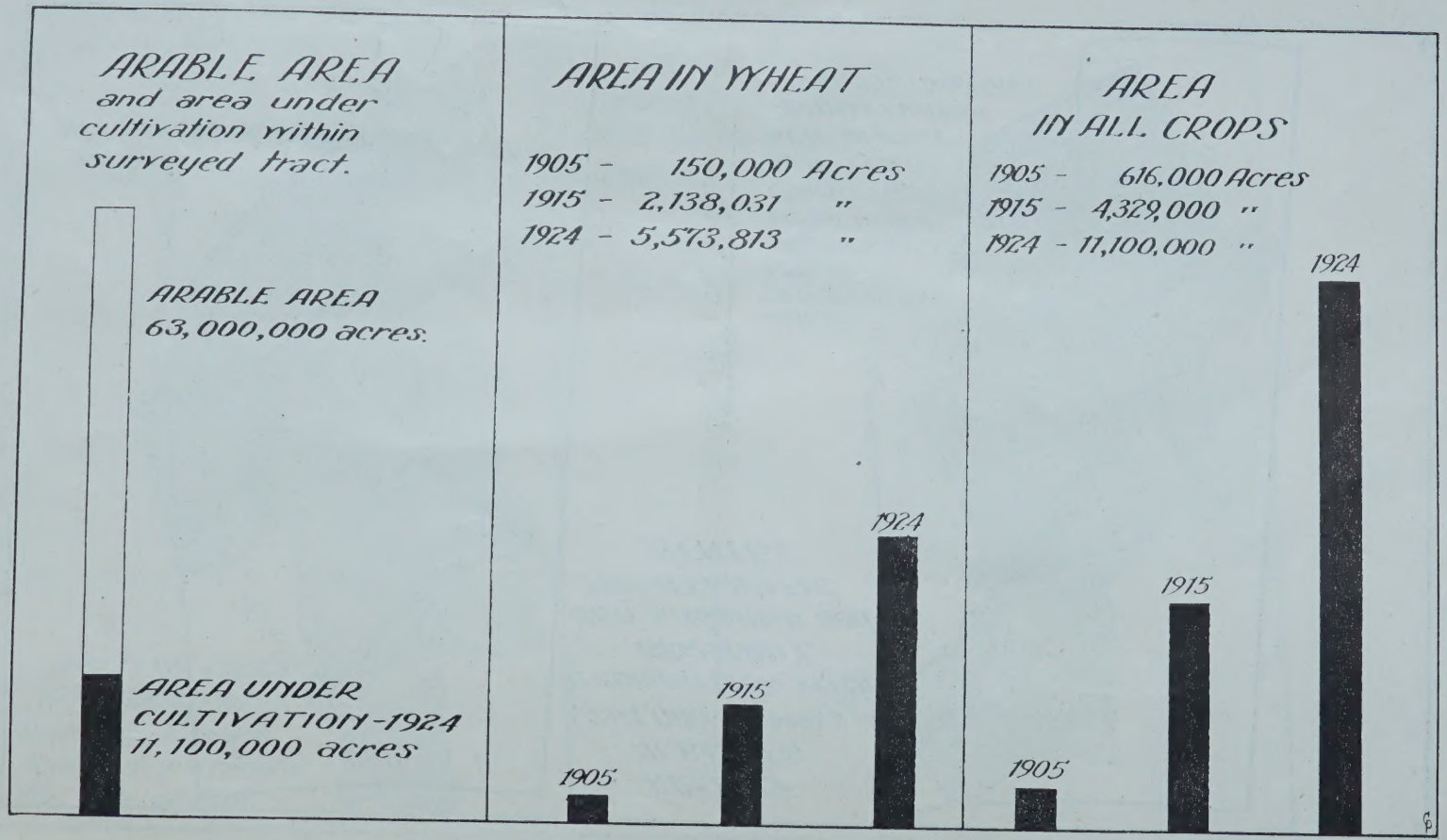
English	180,478
Scotch	96,062
Irish	68,246
Other British	7,034
Dutch and German	44,823
Scandinavian	44,545
French	30,913
Ukranian	23,827
Russian	21,212
Austrian	18,430
Polish	7,172
Other European	18,508
Indians	14,557
Asiatic	4,300
Negro	1,048
Unspecified	2,271

Note.—Census includes Canadians & Americans of British origin, as British.



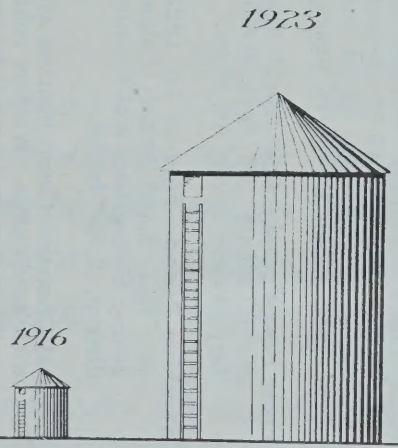

AREA OF
ALBERTA
254,000 Sq. MILES
in comparison with
THE
BRITISH ISLES
& FRANCE
SCOTLAND
IRELAND
ISLE OF
MAN
ENGLAND
FRANCE
BRITISH ISLES
121,558 Sq Miles
Including - England
Scotland Ireland &
the Isle of Man
FRANCE
213,000 Sq Miles


AREA OF
ALBERTA
254,000 Sq. Miles
in comparison with
GERMANY,
NEW ENGLAND and
MID ATLANTIC
STATES
GERMANY
GERMANY
182, 213 Sq., Miles
MAINE
NEW HAMPSHIRE
VERMONT
MASSACHUSETTS
RHODE ISLAND
CONNECTICUT
NEW YORK
NEW JERSEY
PENNSYLVANIA
161, 976 Sq. Miles
MAINE
NEW HAMP.
VERMONT
MASS.
CONN.
R.I.
NEW YORK
NEW JERSEY
PENNSYLVANIA


ARABLE AREA
and area under cultivation within surveyed tract.
ARABLE AREA
63,000,000 acres.
AREA UNDER CULTIVATION-1924
11,100,000 acres
AREA IN WHEAT
1905 - 150,000 Acres
1915 - 2,138,031 "
1924 - 5,573,813 "
1905
1915
1924
AREA IN ALL CROPS
1905 - 616,000 Acres
1915 - 4,329,000 "
1924 - 11,100,000 "
1905
1915
1924

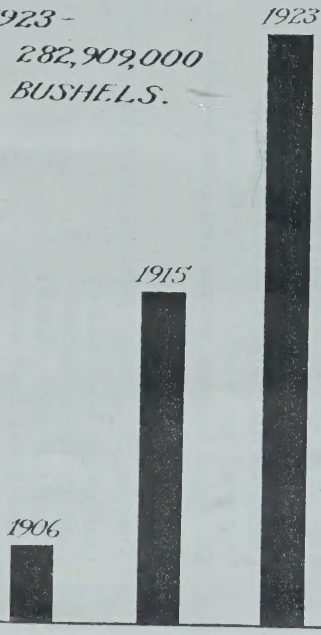
FODDER CROPS

1916 - 381,832 TONS
1923 - 4,946,000 "



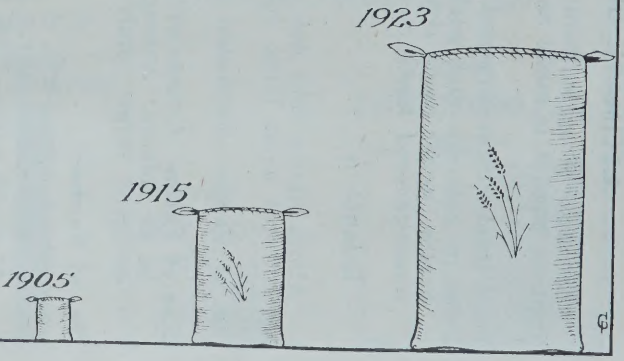
ALL GRAINS

1906 - 34,091,000 Bus.
1915 - 161,280,000 "
1923 - 282,909,000 BUSHELS.



WHEAT PRODUCTION

1905 - 3,035,000 BUSHELS
1915 - 66,538,000 "
1923 - 144,000,000 "



ESTIMATE OF AGRICULTURAL AREA

Estimate of agricultural area within the surveyed tract as outlined on page 4 is made as follows:

	Acres
Total tract within surveyed area as on page 4.....	85,772,175
Total in reserves and parks, road allowances, timber berths, parish and river lots, forestry purposes, water-covered lands is.....	23,535,178
Balance is.....	62,236,997

Above figure does not take into account large areas of possible agricultural lands lying outside of surveyed tract in the Province.

No. of Farms—Estimated number of farms in 1921 was 82,954.

Size of Farms—Census of 1921 showed size of farms in Alberta to be as follows: Average size of farms, 352 acres; acreage of occupied farms totals 29,293,053 acres.

No. of Farms—

1 to 4 acres—295.
5 to 10 acres—401.
11 to 50 acres—605.
51 to 100 acres—1,216.
101 to 200 acres—35,278.
201 to 299 acres—2,415.
300 acres and over—42,744.

Occupied by owner—65,900 farms.
Occupied by manager—729 farms.
Occupied by tenant—8,072 farms.
Occupied by part owner and part tenant—8,253 farms.

Homesteads Available—

Number of quarter sections available as at January 1, 1925:

Lethbridge land district	260
Calgary land district	4,200
Edmonton land district	57,976
Peace River land district.....	35,021
Grande Prairie land district	7,818

Precipitation—Average Medicine Hat, 30 years, 12.97 inches; Lethbridge, 10 years, 15.77 inches; Calgary, 30 years, 16.39 inches; Lacombe, 10 years, 16.39 inches; Edmonton, 30 years, 17.67 inches; Peace River, 16 years, 13.29 inches.

Frost Free Period—Average 12 years, 1911-1923: Medicine Hat, 125 days; Calgary, 94 days; Lethbridge, 115 days; Edmonton, 87 days; Peace River, 80 days.

Sunshine Period—Figures for 1923: Lethbridge, 2,281 hours; Medicine Hat, 2,463 hours; Calgary, 1,943 hours; Lacombe, 2,170 hours; Edmonton, 2,408 hours; Fort Vermilion in Peace River district, 2,321 hours.

General Climate—Clear, bracing atmosphere, summers warm and long with cool nights. Winters cold, but punctuated periodically with spells of very mild weather brought in by famous chinook winds.

TOTAL VALUE OF ALL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

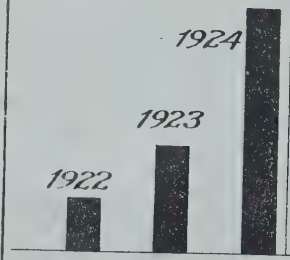
1916 - $174,727,000.00	1921 - $137,455,000.00
1917 - 261,081,000.00	1922 - 150,488,000.00
1918 - 210,509,000.00	1923 - 206,000,000.00
1919 - 239,927,000.00	1924 - 217,000,000.00
1920 - 266,681,000.00	

LIVESTOCK IN ALBERTA

	1910	1915	1924
HORSES	254,197	620,000	875,923
MILCH COWS	94,671	210,000	434,237
ALL CATTLE	672,709	843,974	1,629,815
SHEEP	155,301	525,000	206,458
SWINE	200,000	229,696	1,016,380
	1911	1916	
POULTRY	2,445,117	3,172,777	6,484,781

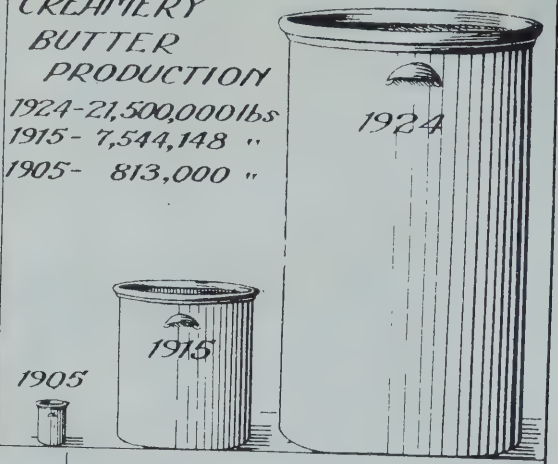
CREAMERY BUTTER EXPORTS

1922 - 1,000,000 lbs.
1923 - 2,000,000 "
1924 - 4,100,000 "

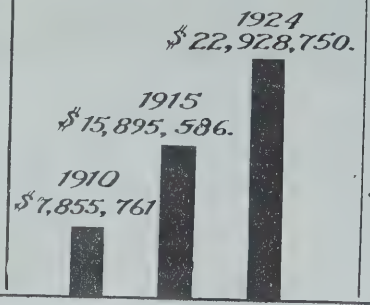


CREAMERY BUTTER PRODUCTION

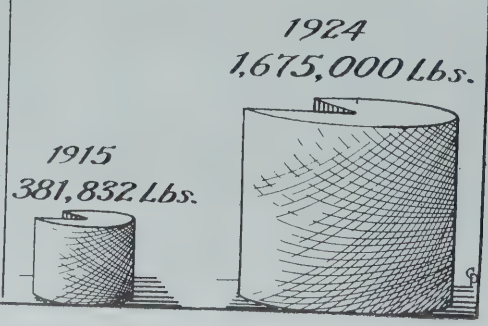
1924 - 21,500,000 lbs
1915 - 7,544,148 "
1905 - 813,000 "



VALUE OF ALL DAIRY PRODUCTS



CHEESE PRODUCTION



Altitudes—At Medicine Hat, 2,171 feet; Lethbridge, 2,900 feet; Calgary, 3,400 feet; Edmonton, 2,100 feet; Peace River, 1,092 feet.

Area in Crops—Of the estimated arable area within the surveyed tract in the Province of 63,000,000 acres, only 11,100,000 acres have thus far been put under cultivation. This, however, was more than double the acreage in crop in 1915, and 18 times as much as was in crop in the year 1905. (See charts.)

Wheat Area—In 1905 there were 150,000 acres in wheat in Alberta. In 1915 it was 15 times as much, and in 1924 it was almost 40 times as great an acreage. (See charts.)

Wheat Production—In 1905 the wheat production was just over 3,000,000 bushels. In 1915 more than 20 times as much wheat was produced, and in 1923 nearly 50 times as much was produced.

Value of Agricultural Production—In 1905 the value of all agricultural production in Alberta was $20,000,000. In 1924 it was 11 times that much, or $217,000,000.

The details for 1924 were as follows:

Field crops	$106,699,146.70
Root and fodder crops	54,393,675.00
Dairy products	22,928,750.00
Poultry products	8,916,000.00
Animals slaughtered and sold	20,772,593.74
Game and furs	2,000,000.00
Horticulture and garden	1,500,000.00
Honey	13,750.00
Wool	223,892.79
Alfalfa seed	30,000.00
	$217,477,808.23

Value per Farm—Value of all agricultural products per farm in 1924 was approximately $2,600.00.

Average Yield Wheat—Alberta, 23 years, 17 bus. per acre; 13 years, 19 bus. per acre; five years, 1917-21, 12 bus. per acre, compared with following states for same period: Minnesota, 13 bus.; South Dakota, 11 bus.; Nebraska, 11 bus.; Kansas, 8 bus.; Montana, 9 bus.

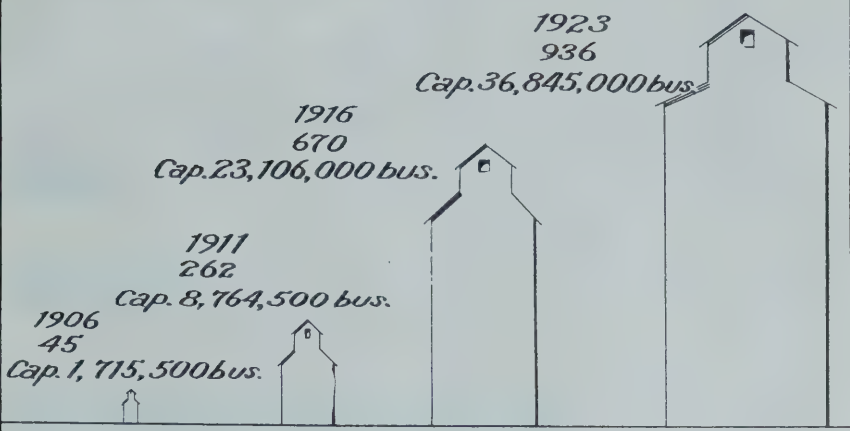
Dairy Production—Creamery butter in 1905 totalled 813,000 lbs. from 13 creameries. In 1915 it was more than seven times as much from 57 creameries, and in 1924 it was more than 20 times as much from 89 creameries. (See chart.) Export of butter to foreign markets has quadrupled in last three years. Production of cheese was five times as great in 1924 as in 1915.

Poultry on Farms—Number in 1924 was 7,214,000. Number per farm was 80, which was second only to B. C. among all provinces.

Export of Eggs—Alberta became an exporter of eggs three years ago. In 1924 it exported 60,000 cases, and much poultry.

Number of Livestock—(See chart).

NUMBER OF ELEVATORS & CAPACITY



RAILWAY MILEAGE

1906 - 1060 Miles
1924 - 4822 "

MILEAGE OF VARIOUS LINES - 1924

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY	2,009 Miles
CANADIAN NATIONAL "	1,974 "
ALBERTA & GREAT WATERWAYS RY.	282 "
EDMONTON DUNVEGAN & B.C. "	423 "
LACOMBE & NORTHWESTERN "	49 "
CENTRAL CANADA RAILWAY	85 "

TELEPHONE STATISTICS

LONG DISTANCE MILEAGE

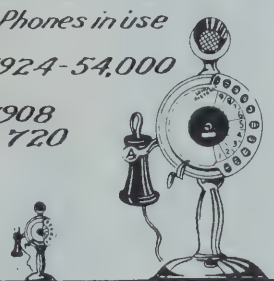
1924-37,145 Miles

1908- 1,192 Miles

No Phones in use

1924-54,000

1908 2,720



NUMBER PHONES IN USE ON GOVT. SYSTEM	54,000
NUMBER RURAL PHONES	20,000
" CITIES TOWNS & HAMLETS connected	974
NUMBER OUTSIDE CONNECTIONS	
SASKATCHEWAN	461
MANITOBA	238
BRITISH COLUMBIA	32
MOUNTAIN STATES	540
LONG DISTANCE CIRCUIT MILEAGE	37,145

Livestock Yards—Edmonton yards, total value receipts, 1924, $4,230,196; Calgary yards, value of 1924 receipts, $6,189,604.

Number Grain Elevators—(See chart).

Co-operative Marketing—Alberta government co-operative marketing service in poultry and eggs handled 535,800 dozen eggs and 750,000 lbs. of poultry in 1924. Alberta government co-operative seed grain plant handled 68,000 bushels registered seed in 1923-24 season. Co-operative Alberta wheat pool handled $32,000,000 worth of wheat in 1923 season. Co-operative livestock and dairy pools now being organized.

Seed Grain Prizes—Alberta captured world's championship in wheat and oats, field peas and red clover at Chicago International in 1923. Total prizes won, 44, with four championships. Total prizes won in 1924 were two championships and 43 prizes.

Industries—Industrial concerns in Alberta include large packing plants at Edmonton and Calgary, flour mills at Medicine Hat, Calgary, Lethbridge, Edmonton and other centers, railway shops at Calgary (largest repair shops in Canada), oil refineries, brick and tile and pottery works, lumber mills, and many others. Approximate yearly payroll in industries $66,000,000, including coal mines.

Manufacturing—In 1905 Alberta had 97 manufacturing concerns with 1,983 employees. In 1915 there were 282 concerns with salaries and wages totaling $4,700,000. In 1921 the number of concerns was 2,024, with over 10,000 employees, a gross production value of $66,000,000 and a capital investment of $55,500,000.

Flour Mills—Alberta has some of the largest flour mills in Canada, located at Medicine Hat and Calgary.

Mineral Production—Mineral production in 1907 in Alberta totalled in value $4,657,524. In 1913 it was $15,054,000 and in 1922 it had grown to $22,897,000.

Coal Production—See chart for particulars of Alberta's greatest mineral resource. Production in 1905 totalled 931,917 tons; in 1916 it was 4,559,054 tons, and in 1923 the peak production of 6,866,923 tons was reached.

OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES

Natural Gas and Oil—Alberta has several large natural gas fields, those in active operation being at Medicine Hat, Bow Island, Foremost, Barnwell, Turner Valley and Viking. Four cities and several towns are now supplied with gas from these fields. Production in 1923 of natural gas was more than 6,400 million cubic feet.

Petroleum has been discovered in limited quantities in several places. Considerable drilling is now being done.

Timber Area and Production—Alberta has 60,000 square miles of merchantable timber. The saw material is estimated at 16,000 million board feet and the pulp wood at 270,000,000 cords.

Tar Sands—Estimated area of tar sands in Northern Alberta is 15,000 square miles, chiefly along Clearwater and Athabasca rivers. Product is highly valuable in oil content and for paving material.

COAL
AREA and PRODUCTION

COMPARATIVE CHART OF COAL RESERVES

THE WORLD 7,397,553 MILLION TONS

Alberta 14½ per cent

NORTH AMERICA 5,073,426 MILLION TONS

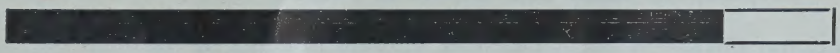
Alberta 21 per cent

BRITISH EMPIRE 1,500,636 MILLION TONS

Alberta 72 per cent

CANADA 1,234,269 MILLION TONS

Alberta 87 per cent



Alberta's Coal Reserves Total 1,035,629 Million Tons

PRODUCTION

Clay Products—Medicine Hat and other points have extensive clay deposits for manufacture of brick and tile and pottery. Value of product of these plants is more than $1,000,000 annually.

Fisheries—Alberta has extensive commercial fish possibilities. The annual product is now valued at $400,000.

Furs—Alberta's annual product in furs and game is valued at $2,000,000.

Water Power—Utilized and available water power in Alberta is estimated at 1,750,000 horse power.

Railways—(See chart).

Telephones—Alberta's phone system is government owned save in Edmonton city, where the system is municipally owned. (See chart).

Education—Alberta has a university with 1,300 students, agricultural college, agricultural schools, technical schools, two normal schools, public and high schools. Total school enrolment in 1924 was 147,500, compared with 28,000 in 1906.

National Parks—Alberta has over 4,500,000 acres in National parks, including the Waterton lakes park in the south, Banff and Lake Louise west of Calgary, and Jasper Park west of Edmonton, all of these being in the Rockies.

Municipal Ownership—Alberta cities own and operate their own electric light and power plants, street railway systems, water systems, etc.

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